

Andrey A. BOUKHAROV *et al.*  
Appln. No. 09/620,392  
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*In the Claims:*

Please enter the following amended claims:

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§ 1  
1. (Twice Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement thereof.

2. (Thrice Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment nucleic acid sequence having from about 50 to about 100 nucleotide residues; wherein said fragment nucleic acid sequence exhibits complete complementarity to a second nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement thereof.

§ 2  
8. (Twice Amended) The substantially purified nucleic acid molecule according to claim 16, wherein said rice protein or fragment thereof is a homologue of a non-rice cereal protein or fragment thereof.

§ 3  
17. (Twice Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule having between 90% and 100% sequence identity with a nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement thereof.

18. (Once Amended) The substantially purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 17, wherein said substantially purified nucleic acid molecule has between 99% and 100% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement thereof.

**Remarks**

Following entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-4, 6-9, and 16-20 will be pending. Claims 1, 2, 8, 17 and 18 have been amended. Support for the amended claims may be found throughout the specification and in the original claims. No new matter is added by these amendments.